



House of Representatives

File No. 649

General Assembly

February Session, 2016

(Reprint of File No. 115)

House Bill No. 5350
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 15, 2016

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S
RECOMMENDATIONS ON FLUORIDATION OF THE PUBLIC WATER
SUPPLY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 19a-38 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

3 [Wherever the fluoride content of public water supplies serving
4 twenty thousand or more persons supplies less than eight-tenths of a
5 milligram per liter of fluoride, the person, firm, corporation or
6 municipality having jurisdiction over the supply] A water company, as
7 defined in section 25-32a, shall add a measured amount of fluoride to
8 the water supply of any water system that it owns and operates and
9 that serves twenty thousand or more persons so as to maintain [a] an
10 average monthly fluoride content [of between eight-tenths of a
11 milligram per liter and one and two-tenths milligrams per liter] that is
12 not more or less than 0.15 of a milligram per liter different than the
13 United States Department of Health and Human Services' most recent
14 recommendation for optimal fluoride levels in drinking water to

- 15 prevent tooth decay.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	19a-38
-----------	------------------------	--------

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation*****SUMMARY:**

This bill, which reduces the mandated fluoride content of the public water supply to not more or less than 0.15 mg/L different from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' most recent recommendation for optimal fluoride levels in drinking water, does not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

House "A" struck the language of the underlying bill and replaced it with language that does not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5350 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S
RECOMMENDATIONS ON FLUORIDATION OF THE PUBLIC
WATER SUPPLY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill reduces the mandated fluoride content of the public water supply. Specifically, it requires water companies serving at least 20,000 people to add a measured amount of fluoride to the water supply to maintain an average monthly fluoride content that is no more than 0.15 milligrams per liter (mg/L) different from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) most recent recommendation for optimal fluoride levels in drinking water to prevent tooth decay (currently 0.7 mg/L). Current law requires that the public water supply's fluoride content be between 0.8 and 1.2 mg/L.

A "water company" is an individual, municipality, or other entity that owns, maintains, operates, manages, controls, or employs any pond, lake, reservoir, well, stream, or distribution plant or system that supplies water to two or more consumers (i.e., service connections) or at least 25 people, on a regular basis.

*House Amendment "A" replaces the original bill (File 115). It (1) changes the fluoride requirement to no more than a 0.15 mg/L, instead of 0.10 mg/L, difference from the federal recommendation and (2) specifies that the requirement applies to the water supply's monthly average.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016

BACKGROUND***HHS Recommendation for Optimal Fluoride Levels***

In 1962, the U.S. Public Health Service recommended that fluoride

concentrations in drinking water be 0.7 to 1.2 mg/L, depending on the area's ambient air temperature (areas with higher average temperatures would require less fluoride). In 2011, HHS proposed new guidance recommending that community water systems adjust their fluoride levels to 0.7 mg/L. The recommendation was finalized in 2015.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/07/2016)